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CHARLES XII.

BY MARY ZIMBELMAN.

THE thread which unites the successive degrees of progress in the career of a people and traces the steps that mark the rise of a nation in the sphere of intelligence and freedom, or its decline below a level once attained, is brought to light by that narration of events, called History.

The internal progress of the nation and the mutual relations existing between nations have been due, almost entirely, to the influence of the conqueror.

He has sometimes compelled nations, unaccustomed to being controlled, to bow in obedience to his will; at times, he has subdued all of his world, then mourned for new worlds to conquer; again, he has conquered and then civilized, and still again he has aspired to the title of conqueror without the least desire of enlarging his dominions.

Charles XII., of Sweden, born to a military life in that country where the rigor of the climate conduces to its people's strength, hardy, brave to the extent of recklessness, capable of inspiring in his followers personal devotion to himself, and, withal, sagacious in council, was the very model of a soldier king.

Before his reign had fairly begun the dark clouds of war began to gather, the horizon darkened, nearer and nearer the storm approached—it burst! but only to be driven back by a sudden northern force.

The boy king extorted a treaty of peace from Frederick, of Denmark, and repulsed the triple alliance.

Poland, torn by internal dissension and allied with Russia, yielded to Sweden's ambitious ruler. When master of her destinies, new aspirations arose within him, new battle-fields were presented—with new difficulties, and each in its turn was overcome with remarkable success.

For nine glorious years such good fortune attended him.

When, at last, the tide turned, he retreated to Turkey.

There for three years he fruitlessly tried to involve her in a war with Russia. Then he returned to Sweden, and in attempting to subdue Norway, a fatal and well-aimed shot ended his extraordinary career.

The character of Charles XII. was a strange mixture of good and evil. In him almost everything was vitiated by a kind of exaggeration.

His habits were simple, yet it seems that in despising the ostentation and luxury of his brother kings, he was actuated by a subtle vanity which made him more proud of the blue coat and copper buttons than another would have been of a richly embroidered uniform. He seemed to care for no pleasures or amusements. He had an amount of endurance which defied fatigue and he was alike insensible to the heat of the summer and the almost arctic cold of the northern winter. He was brave and courageous, yet his courage at times degenerated into rashness and his determination into mere obstinacy.

Before a battle and after a victory he was modest and humble; after a defeat firm and undaunted.

His virtues he carried to excess. His justice sometimes extended to cruelty, and during the

last years of his reign, the measures employed by him to support his authority differed little from tyranny.

After the conquest of Narva, he might have dictated a peace which would have given Sweden an undisputed pre-eminence in Northern Europe, but no, his ambition was aroused and having once tasted the pleasures of military success he allowed himself to be allured onward to a career of conquest, yet in doing so he left not only his own ease, but the happiness of his country, for fame.

His downfall revived the jealousies of more than ten crowned heads who had long beheld, with fear and envy, the Swedish dominions extending outside its usual limits.

During his years of unbroken victory the territory of Sweden was not enlarged.

He conquered provinces and gave them to other princes to rule. With all the great qualities he possessed, any one of which would have been sufficient to have immortalized another prince, he was no statesman; he was below the second rank, and this proved the ruin of Sweden.

In the end, she reaped no advantages from him.

He found her one of the first powers of Europe; he left her fallen to a secondary place, and she has never recovered her former position. Sweden, to-day, had she been ruled by no Charles XII., would stand above the place she now occupies. Her territory was not lessened by his defeats or enlarged by his victories.

In all his actions he proved to be a man more extraordinary than great.

Living as he did in a military age, exercising boundless power, possessing great abilities, Charles XII. had the opportunity of doing an unlimited amount of good to his subjects and to Sweden, yet his was a life of wasted opportunities.

TRUE GREATNESS.

BY W. B. BUDROW.

THE desire for fame and renown is universal. It is confined to no particular class of people. From the stunted Esquimaux of the Arctic regions to the sluggish Hindoo basking under a tropical sun, it exerts its influence.

This desire to become noted seems to be a principle firmly planted in the human mind and forms one of the most marked features in the

advancement of mankind. As the grade of civilization advances the stimulus towards the accomplishment of great deeds increases, and the stronger the efforts put forth in their attainment. Yet, in this desire to inscribe our names high on the "roll of honor," how many have a right conception of what true greatness consists, and how seldom do we see true merit receive its just reward?

As we look over the world and view the monuments of both the past and present civilization, and then study the lives and characters of those in whose honor they have been reared, we cannot help but think that old Sir Thomas Browne was about right when he said, "the world does not know its great men." A very slight inspection of our great heroes will show this to be true. Philanthropists and people who have devoted their lives to the advancement of mankind are hardly remembered beyond their own generation, while conquerors and others whose only aim has been for self, have had their names perpetuated for generations. It needs no penetrating logic, no far-reaching gaze to distinguish the difference between these two principles, true greatness and what the world has pleased to call fame. They stand out as clear and distinct from each other as the noonday brightness from the darkness of night.

The love of fame and popularity and the desire for power are not in themselves debasing elements. To these desires the world owes some of her greatest discoveries and her grandest achievements. It was the love of fame, more than anything else, that sent a Columbus across the Atlantic and opened up a country which to-day is teaching the world the advantage of self-government. It was these desires, among others, which stimulated such men as Watt, Edison and Morse through long hours of weary thinking, and finally resulted in inventions that have revolutionized society and whose benefits cannot be measured. On the other hand, there is nothing that to-day is threatening individualism so much as this growing desire for notoriety. One of the worst features that the American people have to contend with is the inordinate rush and scramble for public offices and positions of influences.

Not alone in political life is this desire to be accounted great exerting its baneful influence, but in our social intercourse and every day life as well. No longer content to win the laurels of fame by slow and steady means, man would

seek to reach the glittering prizes by sudden bounds, depending on chance or luck rather than true merit.

He would choose his one object to be gained and then bend all his faculties toward the attainment of that one thing, only to find, when he reached it, that his desires were as much unsatisfied as ever and like a mirage have faded to a more distant point.

There is something in this world more valuable than fame or renown and of far more worth than all the praise and homage which fawning flatterers ever laid at the feet of a canonized hero. It is an unsullied character, with the consciousness that one is in the right. Fame, like a mere bubble, only reflects the prismatic hues of another body for an instant and bursts, but character remains as firm and enduring as the solid granite of the earth and gives forth its sweetest odors when defamers would smear it with filth.

The world has brilliant examples of men who have dared to stand up for the right; who, looking at great questions with a sense of justice, have dared to face public opinion and pursue a course which they considered as right. Such a man was Edmund Burke, and mankind cannot help but learn a lesson in humanity from him, as they listen to his pleadings for the downtrodden people of India. He needs no massive monuments to commemorate his deeds. Long after the names of such men as Napoleon and Alexander shall have passed into oblivion, the golden precepts of right and wrong, which he taught humanity, will exist and exert their influence.

Courage and strength of will, our two best representatives of manhood, are not always displayed on the battlefield. There is not a day passes but men in the private walks of life are unconsciously displaying as much heroism as was ever shown by a Leonidas or a Ney. It undoubtedly takes courage and firm, set determination to lead a charge where the bullets are flying thickest, or with fixed bayonets to scale a rocky ledge, but it takes just as much will power to honestly say in the words of Henry Clay, "I would rather be right than President of the United States."

There is a greatness to be obtained that is not measured by fame or notoriety. Its victories and defeats are not open to the inspection of the world. Its conflicts are not fought on the open plain; they take place deep down in the recesses

of the human mind, where some of the hardest fought battles occur. Duty and self-sacrifice for the right may not present a very inviting field or offer much scope for the doing of great deeds, when compared with that presented by other lines of action. Yet there is that in the just equity of Nature's laws by which right will sooner or later assert itself. There may be dark days, when it would seem as if everything was conspiring for the wrong, yet when the mists do clear away, it only reveals the earth, shining with a brighter verdure by reason of the storm.

And the world does honor the silent deeds of devotion. It may make no spread or show of doing so, yet there is something in the silent homage offered them, that is of far more worth than all the martial strains of music that ever greeted the ears of triumphant conqueror.

The brightest jewel in that diadem of glory, which casts its halo around the immortal Washington, is where we see him standing at the head of our own nation, a nation torn by contending factions and ripe for any revolution, yet with a firm No he refuses a kingly crown offered him by the soldiery. It does more to make his name truly great than all the battles he ever won. The simple act of Algernon Sidney, in giving a glass of water to a dying soldier on the field of Zutphen, has done more to immortalize his name than all the triumphs of his sword or the genius of his pen.

Such little acts as these shine out like radiant stars among the lives of our great men. Let us learn a lesson from them. Let courage and great deeds of heroism receive their due reward, but let us awake to a realization of the fact, that true greatness may be found in the meanest hovel as well as in lordly halls or among the learned, and that other men besides warriors and statesmen deserve to have their names enrolled among the illustrious great. And in the words of Charles Sumner, "Let that man and that man alone be accounted truly great, who brings comfort where before was wretchedness, who dries the tears of sorrow, who pours oil into the wounds of the unfortunate, who feeds the hungry and clothes the naked, who enlivens and exalts by his virtuous genius in art, in literature, in science, the hours of life, and who by word or action inspires a love for God and man." He is the christian hero in a christian land and alone worthy of honor.

THE DREAM.

BYRON.

Our life is two-fold ; Sleep hath its own world,
 A boundary between the things misnamed
 Death and Existence ; Sleep hath its own world,
 And a wide realm of wild reality.
 And dreams in their development have breath,
 And tears, and tortures, and the touch of joy ;
 They leave a weight upon our waking thoughts,
 They take a weight from off our waking toils,
 They do divide our being ; they become
 A portion of ourselves as of our time,
 And look like heralds of eternity ;
 They pass like spirits of the past ;—they speak
 Like sibyls of the future ; they have power—
 The tyranny of pleasure and of pain
 They make us what we were not—what they
 will
 And shake us with the vision that's gone by.
 The dread of vanished shadows—are they so ?
 Is not the past all shadows ? What are they ?
 Creations of the mind ? The mind can make
 Substance and people planets of its own
 With beings brighter than have been, and give
 A breath to forms which can outlive all flesh.
 I would recall a vision which I dreamed
 Perchance in sleep ; for in itself a thought,
 A slumbering thought is capable of years,
 And curdles a long life into one hour.

* * * * *

NAPOLEON'S FAREWELL.

Farewell to the land where the gloom of my
 glory
 Arose and o'ershadow'd the earth with her
 name—
 She abandons me now—but the page of her
 story
 The brightest or blackest is filled with my
 fame.
 I have warred with a world which vanquished
 me only
 When the meteor of conquest allured me too
 far ;
 I have coped with the nations which dread me
 thus lonely.
 The last single captive to millions in war.
 Farewell to thee, France ! When thy diadem
 crowned me
 I made thee the gem and the wonder of earth,
 But thy weakness decrees I should leave as I
 found thee,
 Decayed in thy glory and sunk in thy worth.
 Oh ! for the veteran hearts that were wasted
 In strife with the storm when their battles
 were won.
 Then the eagle whose gaze in that moment was
 blasted,
 Had still soared with eyes on victory's sun.
 Farewell to thee, France !—But when Liberty
 rallies
 Once more in thy region, remember me then,—

The violet still grows in the depth of thy val-
 leys ;
 Though withered, thy tear will unfold it
 again.
 Yet, I may baffle the hosts that surround us
 And yet may thy heart leap awake to my
 voice —
 There are links that must break in the chain
 that has bound us ;
 Then turn thee and call on the chief of thy
 choice.

“Talks on Psychology” is the title of a small work recently issued by E. L. Kellogg & Co. Its aim is to familiarize teachers with the operation of the mental powers they seek to promote. The subject has been condensed within the smallest possible limits consistent with accomplishing its purpose. The work will doubtless met with much favor among teachers alive to improved methods. The style is clear and forcible, and the fact that Dr. A. S. Welch is the author will be ample assurance to AURORA readers familiar with his life and work, of the thoroughness of the treatise.

A large work on the same subject by Dr. Welch is now in press, and will be published in the near future.

SCIENTIFIC.

THE TURF WEB-WORM.

BY HERBERT OSBORN.

This insect is known scientifically as a variety of the *crambus exsiccatu*s of Zeller, and has been so abundant the past two years on the college farm that a brief account of its habits, as determined by observations, made particularly last year, may be of interest to the readers of THE AURORA.

It is perhaps most conspicuous in the adult stage or as a moth, and we will begin our account with this form.

The moths appear in great numbers during the fore part of June and remain very abundant till the latter part of the month. They are of a light ashy color and fresh specimens show two obscure oblique dark stripes, passing from the hind border toward the apex, on the front wings. The wings are folded closely around the body when at rest. The length of the body is about one-half inch, and the wings expand an inch and one-eighth to an inch and one-fourth.

They cling closely to grass and other plants during the daytime, but if disturbed fly up quickly and then settle a few feet farther on, so that a person in walking through a pasture or meadow will have a cloud of these little moths in the air in front of him. At night they collect in great numbers to lights in houses and, in fields, the greater part of the eggs are probably laid during the night, each female depositing from at least one hundred to probably over two hundred eggs. A portion only of this number are deposited each night, the moth living for a number of days. The eggs are a little over one-fiftieth of an inch in length and oval in shape, with usually fifteen ribs running lengthwise. At first yellowish white, they become darker before hatching. They hatch in eight days from the time of deposition and the larvæ when first hatched are one-half longer than the egg, almost white in color, except the head and the upper part of the first segment of the body, which are dark brown or blackish. These larvæ feed readily upon grass, but at an early stage commence to burrow into the sod. In one instance I found that one of them had constructed a small basket work shelter among blades of grass and some of them drew blades of grass together, forming a tube. As they grow older they form a silk-lined burrow about half an inch beneath the surface of the sod, from which they come to the surface to feed upon the grass. This they cut off close to the surface but usually do not cut down into the crown. When full grown they are nine-tenths of an inch in length, of a light-brownish color, the head and upper part of the first segment darker, and the head blotched with blackish. The segments following the first have glassy, slightly elevated, darker spots, from which arise fine hair. They pupate within the burrow, forming a silken cocoon, which is covered with green, particles resembling chips of grass, but which have really passed through the body and served, perhaps, to some extent, as food. The pupa is bright reddish brown, half an inch in length, the terminal part obtuse and blackish.

The pupa stage is passed in from twelve to fifteen days and as the larva has required from five to seven weeks to become full grown the moths of the second or the fall brood appear in August, early stragglers in the fore part of the month, but the bulk of the brood in the latter part.

The moths of this brood deposit eggs and die

off by the first of October, and while the full history of this brood has not yet been traced, there can be little doubt that the eggs hatch in the fall and the larvæ become partly grown before winter, remain in this condition till spring, become full grown and pupate in the latter part of May and produce their moths in early June, thus completing the yearly cycle.

When grass land infested with the larvæ or upon which eggs have been laid is plowed and planted to corn, the worms attack the young corn and cause great destruction. This may occur for either brood. When the plowing is done late in the fall or early in spring the larvæ of the fall brood will be partially developed and as soon as the corn starts they will have been on short rations for so long a time as to be very voracious and the scattering corn plants soon disappear. If the plowing is done during June, or after the deposition of the eggs by the spring brood of moths, and the land planted to sod-corn, the larvæ, hatching, begin their attacks at once upon the corn and their destruction may be as great as upon the earlier corn affected by the hibernating brood. Their method of working in corn is similar to that in grass except in the matter of forming a burrow and in the parts of the plant eaten. They construct a web from half an inch to an inch below the surface of the ground, usually winding it irregularly among the roots and stalks of corn. Frequently a number of the worms will be found in a single hill, but as a general rule only one or two are found fully developed. Hills infested by these worms have the stalks when small cut partially or entirely off, sometimes, I judge, the upper portion being entirely devoured. Larger stocks have cavities gouged out of the sides at the surface of the ground and a little above. The leaves also are eaten at base and numerous holes scattered over the blade. Sometimes these holes are arranged with a peculiar regularity, occurring in transverse rows, three to five holes in each row, and the rows about the length of the worm apart. The stalks at the surface of the ground are sometimes blackened and decayed, and in some instances there seems to be evidence of their work upon the roots. Naturally they do not find food in such abundance as in grass and may be expected to take whatever they can most readily attack.

As corn is attack only when planted on sod the damage being done by larvæ hatching from eggs deposited in grass, or by larvæ that have

partly obtained their growth in grass, all methods of prevention should recognize the time at which eggs are deposited and the larvæ mature.

When the worms are already at work in early corn the cheapest and best method is probably to replant, for the larvæ must all or nearly all mature by the middle of June at latest and then no further damage need be feared. Reports show that this practice was successful though in many cases fields were planted the third time. It would be well in planting on sod plowed late in the fall before to delay planting as long as practicable, thus starving out the majority, at any rate, of the worms, and then if necessary to replant as soon as possible when hills show presence of worms. If possible, however, the plowing should be done early in the fall so as to prevent the eggs being deposited, or if deposited, to starve out the larvæ before they have prepared for their winter's fast. To be most effectual the plowing should be done before the first of September, and if the land be meadow land, not used for fall pasture, it will be safest to plow as soon as possible after the crop is off. Where the sod is to be plowed up in spring it should be deferred if worms are present till they begin to change to pupæ, or for this latitude till the middle of May, and should be done before the moths make their appearance, or by the first of June. Our notes show that here, sod plowed in May remained entirely free from worms, while that plowed the second week in June, just after appearance of moths, was badly infested. If noticed when they first begin their work on corn, it is probable that the use of bisulphide of carbon would effectually destroy them, but it is doubtful whether it would be as satisfactory as replanting. The worms are easily detected, since they are to be found in their webs in the day time, and they can be picked out by hand quite rapidly, as I know from experience. Possibly boys could be employed to collect them, with good profit. These methods should be resorted to only in cases where preventive measures have not been employed, but in this case prevention is so easy that there seems little need of trouble.

In meadows badly infested and thereby run out, one method to be adopted, where circumstances will permit, is to plow up the sod and plant to another crop; but to avoid damage to the new crop, especially corn, the sod should be turned before the first of June, if in the spring, and if in fall, before the first of September. If,

however, the plowing is done prior to the egg-laying, either of spring or fall, the moths will fly to such pastures and meadows as are left and concentrate there, causing greater damage to such fields. On this account some plan should be adopted to prevent, if possible, that source of damage. If the land can lie after plowing, to starve the worms, it will be a good plan to defer plowing till eggs are laid and then turn under to starve. In fact, knowing the cycle of life in the insect, and the times at which eggs are laid and the worms hatch and mature, each cultivator can adapt his measures to the special circumstances of his particular field.

A plan by which to greatly lessen the number of moths and the injury resulting from their presence in meadows and pastures may be based upon their habit of congregating in such immense numbers to light. The moths thus attracted are in large part, at least, the females, loaded with eggs, and it is probable that they have deposited few, if any, previous to their flying to the light. Hence, every female moth captured means the destruction of from one to two hundred eggs at the least. As the moths come to light by thousands, I think I may say by millions, within a square mile, it can be seen how important is their destruction. Hundreds of them perish as a result of their own self-destructive habit, but by taking advantage of this habit and placing lanterns over tubs or pans of water in exposed places where they may be seen considerable distances, hosts of moths may be captured and destroyed. A little kerosene poured on the water will make their destruction certain, as then, even if they succeed in crawling out over those already submerged, or at the sides of the tub, they are quite sure to have received enough oiling to kill them in a short time. A little care in killing those accumulating in houses will also assist in lessening their number. Where electric lights are in use they may be utilized to especial advantage in the capture of thousands of the moths. I see no feasible plan of attacking the larvæ after they are established in turf of large pastures or meadows.

The pupæ, and possibly the full grown worms are extensively preyed upon by the striped squirrel *spermophilus 13-lineatus*. Unfortunately, this sprightly little rodent has a taste for other food which has gained for it a very unsavory reputation as a farm adjunct. Doubtless where corn is cultivated, the injury to that crop

will over-balance the good they may do in meadows; but I am inclined to think that for land kept constantly in grass their value is far greater than usually supposed. I know they feed upon the seed of grass and clover, doubtless, also to some extent on the leaves and stems, but they also feed on noxious weeds and insects. They seemed to select the burrows of the turf-worms, infallibly pouncing upon a certain spot, digging for an instant, and then sitting upright to devour the dainty morsel. I have seen places where from 25 to 50 cocoons of the *crambus* had been dug out in areas of a yard square.

In so brief an article it is, of course, impossible to present the evidence supporting many of the conclusions. Those who are interested in the matter will find in the Report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for 1887 (pages 154-160) a more detailed account of the insect, where such evidence is stated in full.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish through the columns of the AURORA to express our thanks and appreciation to the Faculty of the Agricultural College and Class '90, for their resolutions of condolence and respect which we received, respectively, April 10 and 18, 1888, and for the many kind and sympathetic acts extended to us by all the inmates of the College, at the time of our loss and great bereavement.

A special mention of the former has been omitted, by mistake, in our previous card of thanks,

Our thanks are also due to the Philomathian Literary Society and committee for their thoughtful, and to us comforting, Resolutions of a Memorial of our departed son and brother, Albin, which we received June 28, beautifully engrossed and framed.

All these shall be dearly cherished in our hearts and home as long as life shall last.

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EDITORIAL.

OWING to pressing work which takes him from the college for a time, and hence makes time more precious for him while he is here, the former editor has been compelled to resign. It is with fear and trembling that we, untried and inexperienced, take up the editorial quill, for we have heard that the way of the editor, as well as that of someone else, is hard, and we think this must be especially true of the editor of the AURORA, for, as we all know, there are at present two strong and very antagonistic social factions at the I. A. C., and, of course, the editor who sides with either brings the wrath of the other upon his head. But we think that as the AURORA is run by the students, it is for the benefit of all and not for the personal satisfaction of a few. And while we have our decided sympathies, we wish to leave all such out of the paper, and we hope to have the AURORA receive the support of the school, and not merely that of one faction. The local editor for the month is also a new hand at the quill and was crowded into service but a

few days before time to go to press in order to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Wright's resignation.

* * *

We find but few exchanges on our table this month, as most colleges are still enjoying their summer vacation. So we are denied the usual privilege of borrowing a thought from that source.

* * *

There is a rule pasted on the door of each student's room which forbids the use of tobacco about the college buildings or grounds. Yet our hall is usually so filled with tobacco smoke that it smells like the bar room of some fourth-class hotel. What is the matter with this rule? Is it kept merely as a relic to scare the freshman with?

* * *

We have had some 60 or 70 cases of malaria, measles, etc., during the present year. Many of us have had the opportunity of trying board at the Sanitarium, but no one reports it as pleasant. The meals seem to have the ordinary dining-room flavor, only more so, and when a fellow begins to think he is not very sick he gets, if not homesick, at least very lonesome and wants to see some of his fellow students, but they have heard he is not very sick, so the boys are usually too busy to call, and the girls, well, they could not call if they wanted to. It looks like a strange rule that will prevent a person from calling on a sick friend. It seems as though it would do the sick student some good for some of the other members of the faculty beside Dr. Fairchild and the President to take some interest in him. What became of the plan of the ladies of the faculty for the relief of sick students, that was so talked of just after the sudden death of one of our number, last spring?

* * *

Last May we were startled by a riot which occurred in our midst. It seemed a strange event that a body of students who were ordinarily good, hard-working boys, should become so enraged, or so forget themselves as to indulge in mob violence. Very naturally this was followed for a time by considerable excitement, and although it soon apparently died out, the thought was left rankling in the minds of both parties, and while never a word passes between the factions, the ill feeling seems to be growing worse every day. While the outbreak was sudden and startling to most of the students, there were

some who had been watching the social workings of the school that had seen for some time that there was trouble ahead, but they expected nothing more than social war, such as comes at times to nearly all colleges. It is hoped that the graduation of the present Senior class will relieve matters a little, as that is a class that never agreed on anything, and since the time of its entrance has been divided into factions, each accusing the other of being the author of the troubles. There was a petition presented to the Board of Trustees at their August meeting, signed by 177 of the students, asking them to take measures regarding the troubles. The Board appointed a committee to investigate the matter which is to report at the November meeting, and it is expected that their decision will at least have a tendency to quiet one faction or the other. The trouble does not necessarily affect class work, and anyone who contemplates attending this school should not be deterred from so doing on that account. The trouble has been in the school to a greater or less degree for many years, but students usually do not have much to do with it, or even see much of it until near the close of the Sophomore year, and then it effects only social and literary matters.

* * *

The lecture by Frank Lincoln, given under the auspices of the Lecture Association, on the evening of Sept. 15, was something new and quite different from the lectures given us by Judge Tourgee, Rev. Joseph Cook and others that the Association has seen fit to provide for us lately. He is a veritable funny man, and his hits at popular absurdities and his imitations kept the audience roaring with laughter for nearly two hours. It is quite a relief to some of us who listen to ten or fifteen lectures regularly each week, to listen to something that makes us laugh for awhile and so breaks the monotony of our regular work.

* * *

IOWA EXPERIMENT STATION.

While the students have all noticed the handsome new building that now adds to the beauty of the campus, and also the quiet corps of men that have been at work in the building and on the experimental grounds during the summer, but few of them have paid any attention to the work being done by them. The work is being carried on by the director and his assistant for the more general agricultural and horticultural

LOCAL.

work, with a special scientist for each of the departments of Botany, Chemistry and Entomology, and these are assisted by the specialists of the Faculty. The Station is just issuing its second bulletin, and it is surprising to see what work has been accomplished already. A farmer would plant, plow and husk many a row of corn before he would see the things Captain Speer has discovered in his experiments with this year's crop. He tried the different varieties to determine which were the best ones. Also made some valuable discoveries relative to the growth of pollen and silks and particularly to the growth of blades on the ears. Prof. Budd, as Horticulturist of the Station, has an article on "promising new cherries" in which he gives the history and a selected list of cherries introduced by him from Russia, and which have since proven successful here. Prof. Crozier, botanist, gives information in regard to the "forage plants" and also the "wild grasses of Northwestern Iowa," he having made an extensive tour during the summer through that part of the state for the purpose of their study. Prof. Gillette, entomologist, made, among others, a valuable discovery relating to fungus which has been destroying the chintz bug here this summer. He also gives the results of many experiments with poisonous solutions for the destroying of injurious insects. Prof. Patrick, chemist, has now one of the neatest and best chemical laboratories in the west, but as it was only lately finished he has had but little time for work there. His article is mostly the defining of work which he intends to do. The station will prove a valuable aid to the students, as many of the older ones, particularly those making a specialty of either Agricultural, Horticultural, Botanical, or Entomological work, will be employed at times to aid in the work. Besides this, any one who is interested may watch any of the experiments. The station has already received a very valuable scientific library and there are to be continual additions to it.

LOCAL.

PERSONAL.

ELIJAH PORTER BARROWS was born in Mansfield, Conn., Jan. 5, 1805. His father was a farmer on a small, rocky farm, a very energetic and dextrous laborer, and

proud of his reputation of being the smartest hand in the neighborhood. But while Elijah was still a small boy his father became a cripple for life, in consequence of exposure to a storm while he was overheated. His uncle, after whom he had been named, was a business man in Baltimore, Md., and took the boy to his home for education. He intended to give him a practical business education. So Elijah borrowed books of his playmates, and by studying in the garret during his play hours mastered the Latin grammar and some of the easier Latin authors. At length his uncle concluded to give him a full college training, and he graduated in the class of '26 at Yale, being second in his class. He was principal of Hartford Grammar School from 1826 to 1832, and meantime, in 1829, married Miss Sarah M. Lee. In 1832 he was ordained, and labored as an evangelist in Connecticut till 1835, when he was installed as pastor of Day street Presbyterian church in New York City. He was now elected to the same professorship in two new Ohio colleges, at Oberlin and at Hudson. Accepting the call of the institution with the best prospects, he became professor of Sacred Literature in Western Reserve College at Hudson, Ohio. Here he remained till 1852, meanwhile filling temporary vacancies in the departments of Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Astronomy, and Physics, and editing for many years the Ohio Observer. He was professor of Hebrew Language and Literature in Andover Theological Seminary, Massachusetts, from 1852 till 1865. After engaging in various literary labors, he accepted his second call to Oberlin, Ohio, where he was professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Literature from 1872 till 1880, since which date he resided at Oberlin. In 1879 Prof. and Mrs. Barrows celebrated their golden wedding, and not long afterwards Mrs. Barrows died. Nine children remain, of whom Prof. Barrows of I. A. C. is the sixth. Nathan, the oldest son, is professor of Mathematics in Rollins College, Florida, and a daughter is the wife of Prof. E. H. Hitchcock, geologist of Dartmouth College.

Besides his mastery of Hebrew, he was a proficient scholar in Latin, Greek, Chaldaic, Arabic, and German, and had a slighter acquaintance with several other languages. He conducted several classes through analytical geometry and the calculus. For recreation he studied all the more important works in geology, down to about the year 1878, and was a practi-

cal botanist who never failed to become fully acquainted with the entire flora (except the grasses, sedges and algæ) of each of the different towns in which he resided.

He died in Oberlin, Ohio, Friday, September 14th, at 8 o'clock P. M., and was buried in Andover, Massachusetts.

BRIEFLETS.

IN the wild, mad frenzy of unconquered "Zips" and the turbulent upheaval of chaotic opinion, we pause to remark:

That grapes are ripe—and good.

That the fair has closed.

That earless silk plugs are held for sale by Juniors.

That tissue paper like faculty decrees won't preserve sour apples. The frost takes 'em.

That a bee hive will hold thirty girls. Witness State Fair.

That the Sophs. can't play ball and don't know it.

That a change of administration has occurred.

That general good feeling and watermelons prevail.

That sealskins and four-handed muffs have been in demand for the last few days.

That our tall Senior has a "pet" scheme and carefully attends to it. "He's all (right)."

That the business is rushing the seniors—two recitations per day, six hours' recreations and unlimited star gazing.

That the shorthanders write with facility but read—no, not as anyone "knows on."

That a double-gear, automatic, self-feeding, furnish-own-bed contrivance for manufacturing unsalted locals to order is desired.

That Company G should be awarded the palm. They were the recipients of repeated applause, while drilling at the State Fair.

That the Senior nine still leads in the base ball league. They have a clean record so far. Nothing like a Democratic pitcher, unless it is a Democratic president.

That the Freshman class contains a number of keen, active, wide awake, intellectually energetic students.

The Junior and Senior girls were entertained on Friday eve., the 14th, by Mrs. Bennett. When they started homeward, concluding, no

doubt, that life was by far too quiet and prosy, they determined to awake the echoes and different members of the faculty. So they bombarded the residence of Captain Lincoln, and awoke the echoes and the festive Fresh. This was an unexpected denouement. The young ladies yielded to the inevitable and sought refuge in—indignation.

That the foundation for Prof. Knapp's new residence may be seen rising abruptly from the hill north of Prof. Bennett's house.

That it is not good form to herald the advent of a lady and gentleman at an entertainment by clapping, hissing, or stamping.

That in six weeks more two hundred and twenty-five brain athletes will be at large, with nothing to guide them save the wild longing and the inquisitive desire "to do and dare."

That there is some talk of securing Dr. Thomas for a lecture. By all means, do! The Dr. is one of the leading pulpit orators of the country.

On Wednesday, the 3rd, the members of the choir were tendered a reception at the president's. An agreeable time is reported.

That the college has received an unusual number of visitors during the past month. The visitors were mostly relatives and friends of students. This is encouraging, as it betokens interest on the part of students. Certain, it is, that the opinion of those who have "been there" is the criterion. All express surprise at the condition and general good character of the college and its appurtenances. The people of the state seem strangely ignorant of the educational advantages possessed by the I. A. C. Why not different students give the institution a "send-off" in the local paper?

The following is the standing of the different class nines:

	Games won.	Games lost.
Seniors	6	0
Juniors	2	3
Freshman	2	3
Sophomores	1	5

A bushel of fun, and all at home, for twenty-five cents, furnished by Mr. Frank Lincoln in his lecture entitled, "Music," delivered in the chapel Saturday night, the 15th. The gentleman is witty, instructive and amusing. He has a voice of exceeding range and power, and can impersonate alike the gray-headed patriot, the dapper youth, the staid, prim old lady or the

simpering collegian. It struck us that while some of his impersonations were exaggerated, others were true to life. A large and almost continuous applause.

FAIR NOTES.

Astronomy cultivated.

A supersufficiency of dust.

Watermelon mashes.

Jno. Dillon "did" by many of the militia.

The "nigger" and his sheet, three eggs for a dime.

The officers wearing military airs, accompanied by cut-off-short-used-up-smiles, posing as relics of the "late unpleasantness."

Different members of Company G mistaken for salvationists—indignation, turmoil, confusion, rats!

The commissary department heavily cannonaded.

And everyone reporting a good time, with bucketsful of fun.

PERSONALS.

THE Alumni notices and other personals will be crowded together in this issue. This is owing to lack of Alumni material. Hereafter we will strive to keep our readers posted as to the whereabouts and doings of the graduates

Prof. Basset is located at Chicago.

J. M. Culver hails from the same place.

Miss Cook, of the Freshman class, has left school on account of ill health.

Messrs. Hunt, Allan, Richard, Bond and Kreger indulged in a week's vacation.

Prof. Scribner rides a wheel with true professional skill.

C. F. Kimball holds down the position of head draughtsman of the Hale Elevator Co. of Chicago.

A. L. Graham has found employment with the same company.

C. S. Bowie of '85 is in Chicago and has a dynamo in his charge.

L. V. Harpel has half his time to devote to the study of law, and reports himself as fully satisfied with his position.

Geo. W. Green of '86, now a prosperous farmer

of Harrison county, visited at the college September 6th.

G. L. Schermerhorn, '85, renews his subscription to THE AURORA. He is located in Paris, Illinois.

'74. C. D. Boardman visited with Dr. Fairchild last week. He is a member of the Board and resides at Odebolt.

G. S. Govier of '87, returning from a trip through Dakota, sojourned at the college a few hours on the sixth.

We noticed the faces of Clyde Warner and Jno. Wormley at the fair. Both gentlemen were members of the college in '85.

Captain W. B. Hunter of '86, now located at Chicago, also "took in" Iowa's exhibit.

Miss Fellows of the Sophomore class spent Thursday and Friday of fair week with her parents, at their home in Tama county.

Captain Dobbin conducted the dress parade of last Wednesday, Captain Lincoln being sick and unable to officiate.

Dr. Jno. Tillie returned from Scotland on the 6th. The ovation he received on entering the chapel, evinces the esteem in which he is held by the students.

Quartermaster Rolfs has been elevated to the rank of captain for brave and efficient services in the late campaign.

T. B. Hutton, one of the brightest as well as one of the best of the Freshman class, leaves on Saturday to begin teaching near Des Moines.

F. S. Schoenleber has left to begin work in the employ of Orange Judd & Co., of Chicago.

The father, mother and cousin of Sargeant Ogle of Company D, lately visited him at the college. The gentleman expressed himself as well pleased with the college.

The Misses Manns and Miss Van Velsor were the recipients of a visit from relatives last week.

Sargeant Dean, Company A, entertained his father for a few hours at the college on the third.

Hammer, the invincible, wears a patch of blue underneath his left optic, in the S. W. corner of his cheek. Too intimate contact with some resistive substance.

Messrs. Bolks and Ogle of the Freshman, renewed old associations and shook off the apathy

of "dreamy speculation," by a visit to their homes in Orange City, Sioux county.

Prof. Barrows departed for Oberlin, Ohio, on the 14th, having received a dispatch announcing the serious illness of his father. It was too late, however, as his death occurred before the Prof. reached Oberlin. His father was a man of wide and extended reputation, having been identified for a number of years with some of the leading colleges in the nation. A short biographical sketch has been provided for this issue of *THE AURORA*.

Messrs Swift and Thornburg, Freshman, were detained a week in their rooms by sickness. Both have recovered, however, and are pursuing the usual round.

Jno. Chraig, of the experimental station, has returned from an extensive trip through the

Coast states, where he has been collecting grasses. He passed through Salt Lake City on his return. Some seventy specimens of grasses were obtained.

Captain Lincoln was taken suddenly ill while conducting the exhibition drill at the fair grounds. It was with difficulty that he was able to assume command on the second day. On reaching home he was confined to his bed for a week. He is able to be around again, and conducted the dress parade, as usual, on Wednesday.

Dr. Welch delivered a series of lectures on "The Science of Education," before the Summer School of Methods, at Des Moines, which were quite fully quoted by the Register. Dr. Welch has a reputation as a psychologist which is not limited by state boundaries.